Should I Test For Radon?

- Yes. Testing is the only way to know if you have elevated levels of radon in your home.
- It is easy, inexpensive, accurate and only takes a few minutes to place the test kit.
- An elevated level of radon is defined as a level ≥ 4.0 pCi/L (picocuries per liter) of air in any given room.
- ♦ Approximately 37% of Wyoming homes have elevated levels of radon $\geq 4.0 \text{ pCi/L}$.
- E.P.A. recommends fixing homes with radon levels $\geq 4.0 \text{ pCi/L}$.
- You can have elevated levels of radon, even if your neighbors don't have elevated levels of radon.
- You must test for radon to determine the radon level in your home.
- Wyoming is classified "<u>Zone 1</u>" by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency which is the highest zone for having the potential for elevated levels of radon in your home.

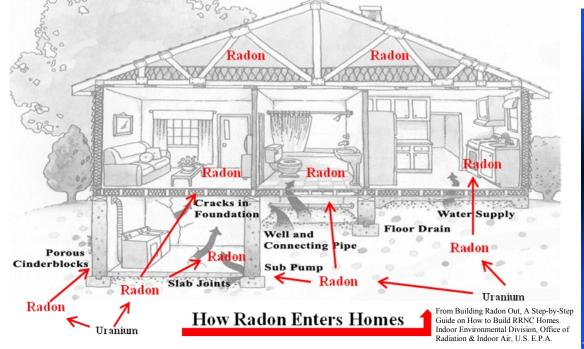
How Do I Test For Radon?

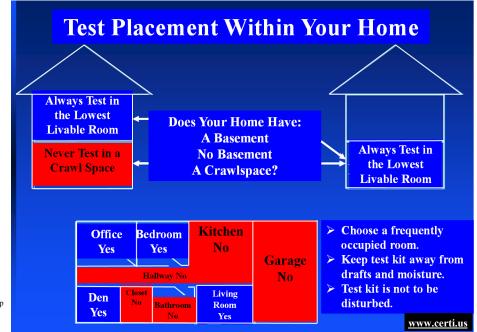
- With a test kit at www.wyomingradon.org.
- Short-term tests last from 2 to 7 days.
- Test in the lowest livable area of your home, such as your living/family room, bedroom, den, office or other frequently used room.
- Never test in a closet, crawl space, kitchen, bathroom, near a draft or on the floor.
- ◆ Kits are to be at least 20 inches off the floor, away from exterior walls and high heat.
- Outside doors and windows are to be closed 12 hours prior to and throughout the test. Normal entry/exit is allowed.
- Four ways to test:
 - 1. Single test kit for 2-7 days.
 - 2. Simultaneous: Two kits 4" apart.
 - 3. Sequential: Two tests 7 days apart.
 - 4. Seasonal: winter, spring, summer, fall.
- ◆ Long-term (91-365 days) and water test kits are available at www.wyomingradon.org.
- Professional radon testers are listed at www.wyomingradon.org.

Can Radon Be Fixed?

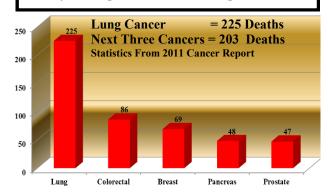


- Yes. Any radon level can be mitigated to an acceptable level below 4.0 pCi/L.
- ◆ Homes can be built with radon-reducing features. Training is available for contractors.
- ◆ To contact a properly trained or Nationally Certified radon professional, call the Wyoming Radon Program: (307) 777-6015 or visit our website www.wyomingradon.org.



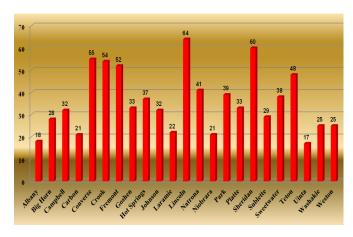


Wyoming, Radon & Lung Cancer



- Lung cancer is the #1 cause of cancer deaths in both the U.S. and in Wyoming.
- Lung cancer claims more lives than the next three cancers combined.
- The higher the radon level and the longer your exposure to radon, the greater the risk of developing lung cancer.
- At ≥ 4.0 pCi/L 7 of 1,000 non-smokers and 62 of 1,000 smokers could develop lung cancer from prolonged exposure to radon.

Percentage of Homes Tested Registering > 4.0 pCi/L By County



- 37% of Wyoming homes are \geq 4.0 pCi/L.
- ♦ E.P.A. recommends fixing homes with radon levels $\geq 4.0 \text{ pCi/L}$.

* Radon * *Test * Fix * Keep Your Family Safe*



Short-Term Test Kits Buy One @ \$7.95 - Get One Free. 1. Test Your Basement. 2. Test the 1st Floor. 3. Test during different seasons. Alpha Energy Laboratories Kidde Kidde Kits for Wyoming Use Only http://www.wyomingradon.org

Contact (307) 777-6015

steve.melia@wyo.gov

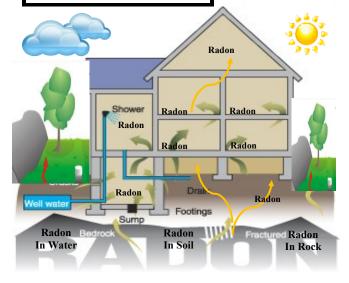
For Speaking Engagements, CME's/CEU's

Wyoming Department of Health
Preventive Health and Safety Section
Environmental and Occupational Health Program
6101 Yellowstone Road, Suite 510
Cheyenne WY 82002
(307) 777-6015 - Fax (307) 777-5402



What is Radon?





- A radioactive gas produced from the natural decay of uranium in soil, rock and water.
- Exposure to radon increases your risk of lung cancer, especially among cigarette smokers. It takes years of exposure to radon before any symptoms of lung cancer develop.
- ◆ The U.S. Surgeon General lists radon as the second leading risk factor for lung cancer.
- It seeps into homes, offices and schools through cracks, holes, drains and openings in the building's foundation or from well-water.
- Your home, office or school traps the radon inside; it can build up to elevated levels (4.0 pCi/L or higher).
- All buildings can have a radon problem: new, old, well-sealed, drafty, energy efficient, with or without a basement.
- You can't see, smell, taste, feel or hear radon.
- You must test to determine the radon level in your home, office or school.